GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2834
ANSWERED ON:09.08.2000
INDO-ISRAEL TIES
PUTTASWAMY GOWDA;TUFANI SAROJ

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Israel had invited Indian experts;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether both the countries propose to establish nuclear relations;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether certain remarks made by him and Home Minister during their visit over there have invited criticism from certain Arab countries; and

(f) if so, the details thereof including the Government`s stand thereon?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI AJIT KUMAR PANJA)

(a) & (b) No Sir.

(c) & (d) No Sir.

(e) & (f) External Affairs Minister and the Home Minister had visited Israel separately in the month of June/July.The main thrust of these two visits revolved around improvement of India-Israel bilateral relations. There had been some inaccurate media reports which have been clarified to representatives of Arab countries by the Ministry of External Affairs. They have been assuredthat our bilateral relations with any other country will never be developed at the cost of our traditional ties with Arab countries.